



NEWSLETTER of the Wisconsin Entomological Society

Volume 1 Number 3

James W. Mertins, Editor

September, 1973

EDITOR'S NOTES

A suggestion has been made that the NEWSLETTER publish a column which would serve to better acquaint the members with each other's interests. This would be especially advantageous to new members and out-state members who seldom can attend meetings. To this end, may we request that each of you take time out to jot down a few notes, perhaps a sentence or two, summarizing your general and/or specialized interests and activities in biology or entomology and send them to the editor. We will then publish the resumes, a few at a time, until the whole membership has been mutually introduced. The membership application appearing on the back page of the NEWSLETTER might be used as a starting point and guide in preparing your summary. Any other comments, suggestions, or contributions for the NEWSLETTER would also be welcome at this time.

To further elaborate on the membership application mentioned above; this is to become a permanent feature of the back page of the NEWSLETTER, and we hope that many of you will find it useful in recruiting friends or associates to join WES. It never hurts to advertise.

Were scorpionflies (Mecoptera) unusually abundant this year, or did I just notice them more?

NOTICES

(This column will accept and publish any personal notes from members in regard to specimens or equipment desired, or for sale, trade, or exchange.)

Wanted. Records by county for all Wisconsin Rhopalocera, Sphingidae, Saturniidae, and Catocala. For more details write Roger Kuehn, 5042 N. 61 St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53218.

The NEWSLETTER of the Wisconsin Entomological Society is published two to four times yearly at irregular intervals. Please send all news, notes, contributions and other items for the NEWSLETTER to the Editor, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

NOTICES (cont.)

Wanted. Confirmable reports or specimens from termite infestations within Wisconsin. Please contact Glenn Esenther, U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, with any information you may have.

Wanted. Pseudoscorpions - live or preserved in alcohol. Any species. Will accept any specimens you don't want, or have house pseudoscorpion, Chelifer cancroides, for trade. Jim Mertins, Dept. of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Although he is a new member of the Society, Jim Stevens has been associated with the U.W. Entomology Department for several years. Last August 18, he and the former Wendy Tessman were married in a ceremony which took place in a beautiful wooded setting just south of Rockford, Ill. One entomologist in attendance was heard to suggest that maybe the dog-day cicadas in the vicinity would provide appropriate music for the event. His associate, another entomologist, carried the thought even further, proclaiming that such accompaniment should be termed "cicadian rhythms". Despite this atrocious pun, we all send our best wishes to Jim and Wendy.

Dr. John All, another recent new member, has just set off for Athens, Georgia where he has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Entomology at the University of Georgia. John recently completed his doctoral work at Madison on chemical feeding deterrents to sawfly larvae in pine foliage. His work at Athens will include teaching and research on agricultural insects.

Dr. D.M. Benjamin left Madison last month for a two year stay in Bogor, Indonesia, where he will serve as Program Coordinator with the Bogor Agric. University MUCIA project. He will also consult on forest and tea insects.

Dr. R.D. Shenefelt reports that efforts are currently underway to locate and hire a suitable replacement for the late Lutz Bayer as curator of the U.W. Insectarium collection.

Dr. E.P. Lichtenstein recently received a grant of \$120,000.00 from the National Science Foundation for studies on how insecticides interact with other environmental chemicals.

New Members

John All.....Dept. of Entomology, University of Georgia,
Athens, Georgia 30602
Interests: Forest and Agricultural entomology,
feeding stimulants and deterrents for sawfly
larvae in pine foliage.

James Stevens.....Biology Dept. Luther College, Decorah, Iowa
52101.

Interests: Biology and control of pine weevil complex

NEWS OF MEMBERS (cont.)

John Hempel.....1602 N. Concord Dr., Janesville, Wis. 53545
Interests: Collecting Coleoptera
Ted Shapas.....Dept. of Entomology, University of Wis.
Interests: Aquatic Insects
H. Gene Drecktrah.....Biology Dept., Univ. of Wis., Oshkosh, Wis. 54901
Interests: General Entomology

Changes of Address

Robert Bartelt.....17275 Brooklawn Dr.
Brookfield, Wis. 53005
Donald Carlson.....626 N. Lawn Ave.
Racine, Wis. 53405
Daniel L. and Ellen Dettwiler.....3062 N. Newhall Ave.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53211
Richard A. Lillie.....R.R. 1 Box 263
Lodi, Wis. 53555
Joanna Nelson.....10010 N. Rangeline Road 27W.
Mequon, Wis. 53092
William Smith.....123 S. Hudson
Stockton, Ill. 61085

Lost Member - Moved w/o forwarding address

Kenneth A. Schmitt, Jr.....Milwaukee

Dues

Five members are still two years in arrears on their dues and will be dropped from the mailing list after this issue of the NEWSLETTER.

HISTORY OF WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGY - I

(Thanks are due to Ken MacArthur and Lutz Bayer for contributing the information appearing in this and subsequent installments.)

The earliest history of entomology in Wisconsin is synonymous with the activities of some of the pioneer naturalists of the southeastern corner of the state. Milwaukee was an especially active center for them. Entomology in the rest of the state, and specifically in Madison, got a slightly later start, and will be discussed in due course.

Dr. P.R. Hoy was one of the first of these early pioneer naturalists and was active even while Wisconsin was still a territory. Born of Scotch parents, Dr. Hoy was a physician and surgeon, out of Racine, though his practice covered much of southeastern Wisconsin. His interest in natural history was greatly encouraged by his early acquaintance and lifelong friendship with Increase A. Lapham. Dr. Hoy was active in the short lived Wisconsin Natural History Association of Madison in 1855, and was among the charter members of the

HISTORY OF WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGY - I (cont.)

Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters in 1870. The first article on an entomological subject to appear in the Transactions of the Academy (Vol. 1, No. 1, 1870), was authored by Dr. Hoy: "Insects Injurious to Plants - The Aphides." The paper discussed the various predators of plant lice, and made a strong case for natural and biological control of these pests. It also suggested the creation of a position of state entomologist. "The Catocalae of Racine County" was the second entomological contribution appearing in the Transactions, and it, too, was from Dr. Hoy's pen. It reported a tremendous total (by today's standards) of forty species of underwing moths collected in the fall of 1874 in a small area.

Perhaps his Scottish background was responsible in large part for Hoy's activities in the Madison based Wisconsin Natural History Association and W.A.S.A.L. rather than the almost exclusively German group, the Wisconsin Natural History Society, located in Milwaukee. In any case, Dr. Hoy's achievements were recognized by the Society, as his name appeared in the 1880 yearbook as an honorary member.

Dr. Hoy's natural history collection was at one time considered "one of the largest local collections in the world" and was examined by many noted scientists. Most of the specimens are now in the Racine County Museum, but at least part of the insect collection was donated to the Milwaukee Public Museum. Dr. Hoy was active until his death in 1892.

WISCONSIN INSECT NOTES

Bill Sieker reports that a few stray Speyeria idalia (regal fritillaries) were present on the second weekend in August at his farm. Apparently our field trip missed the flight period this year.

According to the weekly Wisconsin Insect Survey Bulletin of the state Department of Agriculture, nine Japanese beetles were trapped at one location in Kenosha County by August 13. This is an unusually high number of beetles and suggests that these came from a local infestation rather than as "Hitchhikers" from outside the state. This would be the first such infestation known in the state. Federal and state officials are monitoring the situation and considering appropriate regulatory action. Ordinarily a quarantine and/or chemical eradication are invoked when isolated infestations are discovered.

As a followup on the notice concerning the periodical cicada which appeared in the last issue of the NEWSLETTER, we can report that at least some of our members encountered and collected these interesting insects. Various reports had them throughout the southern tier of counties, and especially numerous in the southwestern corner of the state. Several people collected cicadas in number on the Sieker farm field trip in Iowa County.

The Editor submitted several specimens to Dr. Froeschner at the United States Natural Museum, and the following (in part) was the reply: "I am very grateful for the generosity....of the five periodical cicadas submitted for identification. The four adults (and... nymphal exuvium) were clearly Magicalicada septemdecim (L.)."

PROGRAM NOTES

The response of the membership in reporting on the species collected at our two summer field trips was unusually poor. Three lists were submitted from the Sieker farm trip, and one from Ferry Bluff. Nevertheless, we will publish what we have on hand at present.

SIEKER FARM - JUNE 23, 1973

(Reported by Roger Kuehn, Herb Grimek, and Jim Mertins)

The weather was rainy and cloudy until noon, perhaps explaining the small turnout of less than a dozen members. The season appeared to be about one to two weeks late phenologically, and no regal fritillaries were reported seen. A fine new gravel driveway made travel to the farmhouse easy despite the rainy spring, and cold lemonade was available to the dauntless collectors thanks to Mrs. Sieker and Bill's aunt and mother, who also attended.

Combined species list (all adults unless otherwise noted)

Odonata:	Libellulidae	-	<u>Libellula pulchella</u>
Orthoptera:	Blattidae	-	<u>Parcoblatta</u> sp. (observed)
Homoptera:	Cicadidae	-	<u>Magicicada septemdecim</u>
	Membracidae	-	<u>Glossonotus univittatus</u>
Coleoptera:	Cicindelidae	-	<u>Cicindela sexguttata</u>
	Scarabaeidae	-	<u>Aphodius fossor</u>
			<u>Phyllophaga</u> sp.
			<u>Trichiotinus assimilis</u>
			<u>T. piger</u>
			<u>T. viridans</u>
	Buprestidae	-	<u>Buprestis (confluente ?)</u>
	Lycidae	-	<u>Plateros lictor</u>
	Mordellidae	-	<u>Mordella atrata</u>
	Tenebrionidae	-	<u>Allobates pennsylvanica</u> (observed)
			<u>Scotobates (Centronopus) calcaratus</u>
	Lagriidae	-	<u>Arthromacra aenea</u>
	Cerambycidae	-	<u>Anoplodera rubrica</u>
			<u>A. vittata</u>
			<u>Callimoxys sanguinicollis</u>
			<u>Euderces picipes</u>
	Chrysomelidae	-	<u>Anomoea laticlavata</u>
			<u>Babia quadriguttata</u>
	Curculionidae	-	<u>Rhyssomatus lineaticollis</u>
Mecoptera:	Panorpidae	-	<u>Panorpa banksi</u>
			<u>P. helena</u>
Lepidoptera:	Papilionidae	-	<u>Papilio cres phontes</u> (observed)
			<u>P. turnus</u> (observed)
	Pieridae	-	<u>Pieris rapae</u>
	Danaidae	-	<u>Danaus plexippus</u>
	Satyridae	-	<u>Euptychia cymela</u>
	Nymphalidae	-	<u>Cynthia virginiana</u> (larvae and adults)
			<u>Limenitis arthemis astyanax</u> (observed)
			<u>Vanessa atalanta</u> (observed)

PROGRAM NOTES: SIEKER FARM (cont.)

Combined species list (cont.)

Lepidoptera:	Lycaenidae	-	<u>Satyrium calanus falacer</u>
	Hesperiidae	-	<u>Ancyloxypha numitor</u> <u>Pompeius verna</u>
Diptera:	Tabanidae	-	<u>Chrysops indus</u>
	Asilidae	-	<u>Ceraturgus (cruciatus ?)</u>

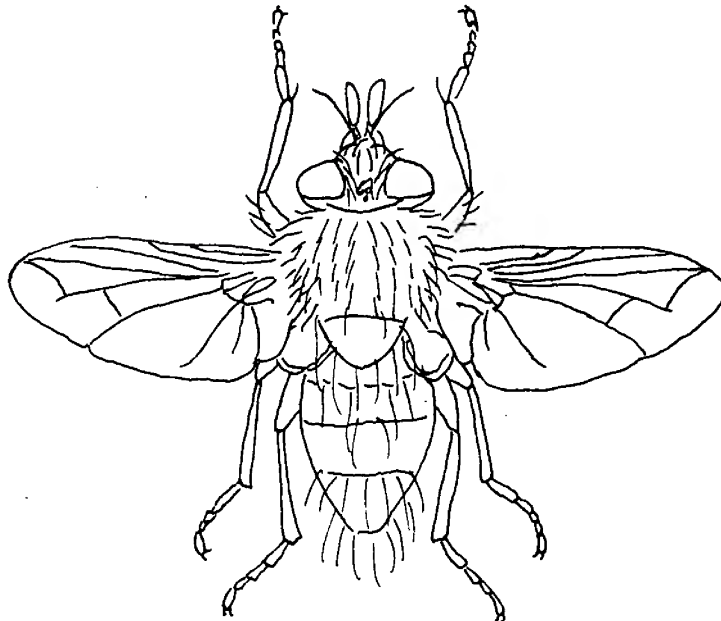
FERRY BLUFF - JULY 21, 1973

(Reported by Bill Sieker)

It was a cool, windy night with very few species on the wing. Very few members, too.

Species list

Orthoptera:	Blattidae	-	<u>Parcoblatta</u> sp. (common)
Lepidoptera:	Noctuidae	-	<u>Catocala cerogama</u>
			<u>C. ilia</u> (observed)
			<u>C. micronympha</u>
			<u>C. ultronia</u>
			<u>Epizeuxis lubricalis</u>
			<u>Erebus odora</u> (possibly observed)



THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison

Entomology-Graduate Club

Wisconsin Entomological Society

Friends and colleagues of Lutz Bayer:

As a means of recognizing Lutz and his service to Wisconsin entomology, several people have suggested the initiation of a memorial fund. His parents have donated his books, journals, and notes to the Department's Fluke Memorial Library in his remembrance, and Wisconsin Entomological Society and Entomology-Graduate Club suggest it might be most appropriate to bind as much of this material as contributions will allow, beginning with the journals and papers on Lepidoptera. Those wishing to make contributions to the fund may do so through Norma Itten, who has volunteered to act as liaison.

Respectfully,

Brian Flood, President
Entomology Club

Harry C. Coppel, President
Wisconsin Entomological Society

Jim Mertins, Editor
WES NEWSLETTER

WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print:

Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Address: Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Organization represented (if any) _____
 Title or Occupation _____ Phone: (include area code) _____
 _____ Individual membership (\$2.00 per year)
 _____ Organization membership (\$10.00 per year)
 _____ Sustaining membership (\$25.00 or more per year)

General Interest Area

_____ Aquatic Insects _____ Collecting and/or Taxonomy
 _____ 4-H or Scout Member _____ Insect Photography
 _____ Extension Worker _____ Physiology
 _____ Life History, Biology, & Behavior _____ Apiculture
 _____ Other _____ Specify _____ Pest Control

Specific Interests (Order, Family, Genus) _____

If you are an authority for certain insect taxa, would you be willing to identify Wisconsin specimens for members? Yes _____ No _____

Make checks payable to Wisconsin Entomological Society and mail to the Treasurer, William Hilsenhoff, Dept. of Entomology, 237 Russell Labs., U. Wisc., Madison, Wisc. 53706.

Wisconsin Entomological Society
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Address correction requested